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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: William S. Adney, et al. Docket No.: NREL 01-38  
Serial No.: 09/917,384  
Filed: July 28, 2001  
Title: THERMAL TOLERANT EXOGLUCANASE FROM ACIDOTHERMUS  
CELLULOLYTICUS

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT; AND RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO COMPLY WITH  
REQUIREMENTS FOR PATENT APPLICATIONS CONTAINING NUCLEOTIDE  
SEQUENCE AND/OR AMINO ACID SEQUENCE DISCLOSURES**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The present papers are submitted in response to the Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures mailed August 23, 2001. The present paper is timely filed as it is being filed prior to the expiration date of the period to respond, which date is **October 23, 2001**. No request for extension of time is deemed necessary. However, should a request for extension of time be necessary, please consider this paper to constitute such a request.

**AMENDMENT**

Please amend the specification to read as set forth below (clean copies of the amended claims are presented below while marked-up versions of the amended claims are included on a separate attachment per 37 C.F.R. § 1.121):

Please delete the second full paragraph on page 3, beginning line 21:

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 13, beginning line 14, with the following:

AI "Thermal tolerant" refers to the property of withstanding partial or complete inactivation by heat and can also be described as thermal resistance or thermal stability. Although some variation exists in the literature, the following definitions can be considered typical